January 20, 2009 **Washington, D.C.** – Today, Congressman Carson issued the following statement this morning before the Inauguration of Barack Obama as the 44

President of the United States:

"Today, Barack Obama will be sworn-in as the 44

President of the United States.

After years of advocacy at the community, state and federal level and following one of the longest presidential campaigns in history, President-elect Obama has truly shown himself to be one of our nation's most dedicated public servants, visionary leaders and diplomatic statesmen.

"Yet, even today, as we prepare to celebrate this historic occasion, our nation continues to face one of its greatest challenges.

Across the country, millions of families are fighting unemployment, foreclosure and bankruptcy as we sink into a deepening recession.

I encourage all Americans, regardless of political party, to come together in a spirit of greater unity and work with President Obama.

Together we can see our nation's problems resolved so that we are all once again able to achieve the American dream.

"I congratulate President Obama on his historic victory and upcoming inauguration.

I look forward to working with him to promote and implement a legislative agenda that moves our nation in a more promising and progressive direction."

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